

John Robinson to George Washington, November 16, 1756, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ROBINSON.

WMS.BURGH Novr. 16. 1756

DEAR SIR/

I recd your Favours by the express and am extremely sorry to find you are made so uneasy in your Duty; while you are venturing your Life and fortune for the good of your Country, to be aspersed and censured by a vile and Ignorant Scribler,¹ I must confess is sufficient to raise the indignation of every Gent of Spirit, and no Man can blame you for shewing a proper Resentment at it, but my Dear Sir, as you justly observe in your Letter, consider of what fatal Consequence to your Country your resigning the Command at this time may be, more especially as there is no doubt most of the Officers will follow your Example, and then our Frontiers must be left exposed to cruelties and Barbarities of our merciless Enemies, and therefore I hope you will allow your Ruling Passion, The Love of your Country, to stifle your Resentment at least till the Arrival of Lord Loudoun or the meeting of the Assembly when you may be sure of having Justice done You. Who those of your pretended friends are that give Credit to the Malicious Reflections in that Scandalous Libel I assure you I am ignorant, and do declare that I never heard any Man of Honor or Reputation speak the least disrespectfully of you or censure your Conduct in the least, and I am sure there is no well wisher to his Country, that would not be greatly concerned to hear of your resigning, and therefore I must repeat my wishes that you will continue still in

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the Command. I could not possibly get the money signed to dispatch to Mr. Mercer before this day tho' I have applied myself as closely as possible, considering the Multiplicity of Business I have been engaged in. I am with the greatest sincerity

Dr. Sir Your Affe. friend & Servt. JOHN ROBINSON

¹ Referring to rumors circulated to the disparagement of the army, charging the officers with gross irregularities and neglect of duty, and indirectly throwing the blame upon Washington. The malicious tales seemed for the moment to receive public countenance. See Note, vol. i. p. 382.